

DOE Weekly Field Memo – March 18, 2009

From the Department:

- **Public Comment Opportunity: Annual State Application of IDEA**
- **Guide for Implementing Prekindergarten Education**
- **Professional Development: Vermont Science Initiative**
- **Nimble Tools Assessment Accommodation Test Delivery System**

From the Military Child Education Coalition:

- **Free Support for Children of the National Guard and Reserve (Attachment)**

From the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation:

- **Vermont Organics Recycling Summit**

Public Comment Opportunity: Annual State Application Under Part B of the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) as Amended in 2004 for Federal Fiscal Year 2009

Audience: Special Educators, Administrators

Each year states are required to file an application to receive IDEA funds. The application includes assurances that the state has policies and procedures in place to meet the requirements of Part B of IDEA and a description of how funds will be used. It is required that the application be made available to the public for 60 days with a 30-day period when comments will be accepted. Visit:

http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm_sped.html#comment for more information.

Contact: Karin Edwards, Director of Student Support, at (802) 828-5118 or karin.edwards@state.vt.us.

Guide for Implementing Prekindergarten Education

Audience: Superintendents, Special Education Directors, Elementary School Principals

The Guide for Implementing Prekindergarten Education in Accordance with Act 62 is an updated version of the June 2008 Guide. It includes responses to frequently asked questions, clarification of prekindergarten policies, and an appendix of templates, sample contracts, notifications and reporting forms. Visit http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm_earlyed/prekindergarten.html#guide.

Contact: Manuela Fonseca, (802) 828-3850 or manuela.fonseca@state.vt.us.

Professional Development: Vermont Science Initiative Tier I and Tier II

Audience: Principals, Curriculum Coordinators, Teachers

The Vermont Science Initiative (VSI) is accepting applications for both the Tier I Masters Program and for the Tier II one-year professional development program for the 2008-2009 school year. VSI Tier I, open to all K-8 teachers, provides teachers with coursework in science content, pedagogy, assessment and leadership with the ultimate goal of preparing science teacher leaders. VSI Tier II provides a one-year professional development program in both science content and pedagogy and is designed specifically for a group of teachers from a supervisory union, district, school or ESA region. Priority for Tier II sites will be given to districts that have at least one teacher enrolling in the VSI Tier I program. For additional information, please go to:

http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm_curriculum/mathematics/initiatives.html#vsi_application.

Contact: For additional information, contact Renee Affolter at renee.affolter@jsc.vsc.edu, Maura O'Brien at mobrien@wested.org, or Pat Fitzsimmons at (802) 828-0196 or pat.fitzsimmons@state.vt.us.

Nimble Tools Assessment Accommodation Test Delivery System

Audience: Superintendents, High School Principals, Special Education Coordinators, Curriculum Coordinators

High school principals will receive a packet of materials from the department announcing the availability of **Nimble Tools**, an online assessment accommodations test-delivery system that will be available for use by Grade 11 students during the May 2009 administration of the NECAP Science Assessment. Working in collaboration with the Vermont, New Hampshire and Rhode Island Departments of Education, Nimble Tools was awarded a Federal Enhanced Assessment Grant to develop a web-based platform for providing an array of assessment accommodations to students with special assessment needs. For more information and to review a memorandum, visit:

http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm_assessment/necap.html#nimble.

Contact: Michael Hock, Assessment Director, at (802) 828-3115 or michael.hock@state.vt.us.

From the Military Child Education Coalition:

Free Support for Children of the National Guard and Reserve (Attachment)

Audience: School Counselors, Administrators, Nurses

The Military Child Education Coalition's™ **Supporting Children of the National Guard and Reserve Institute**© is a professional development program for educators and professionals to reach out in a support network to the children and families of the National Guard and Reserve. The curriculum, content, process and delivery are correlated with the National Staff Development Council's Standards and the National Standards for School Counseling Programs. Because the Institute is very interactive and participation is required to fully benefit from this training, participants must commit to attend both days.

Date: May 5-6, 2009 Location: Vermont College of Fine Arts, Montpelier,

Time: 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. (registration and continental breakfast at 8:00 a.m.)

Deadline for registration: April 24, 2009

For more information visit <http://www.militarychild.org>. Cost: None - Funded by U.S. FMWRC-CYS.

Participants are responsible for travel and overnight accommodations.

Contact: Linda Neault at 254-953-1923 or Linda.Neault@MilitaryChild.org.

(Attachment: MilitaryKids_Registration Form.doc)

From the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation:

Vermont Organics Recycling Summit

Audience: Administrators, Educators, Students

Does your school have a teacher and/or a small group of students interested in how democracy works? Do you have a group interested in environmental policy or organics recycling? The Vermont Organics Recycling Summit starts by giving all participants a beginner background of technical information about organics residue recycling (primarily focused on food, yard, and unrecyclable paper with or without animal manures) from composting to electricity generation from landfill gas. In the afternoon, the policy roundtables are an excellent opportunity to see democracy in action.

Due to special sponsorship, not only can the students sign up at the low rate of \$20 which covers the food (continental breakfast, snacks, and lunch are included) but the teachers and appropriate staff can also.

Just have them register as students, though please have them fill in their proper job position. Tuesday, March 31, 2009 at Vermont Technical College, Judd Gym; Randolph Center, Vermont

Visit <http://www.regonline.com/builder/site/Default.aspx?eventid=700441> or <http://www.compostingvermont.org>.

Contact: Vicky Viens, Organics Recycling Specialist, Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation, Waste Management Division at (802) 241-3448 or Vicky.viens@state.vt.us.

Weekly Field Memo is Online!

The DOE Weekly Field Memo is archived on the Department of Education Web site at

http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/field_memo.html. Field Memos and the corresponding attachments are available for download. For Field Memo information three months or older, or for other questions, please contact Jill Remick, communications director, at (802) 828-3154 or jill.remick@state.vt.us.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

For the Department of Education Web site see: <http://education.vermont.gov/>. For upcoming events or professional development opportunities, see the DOE Calendar of Events located at: <http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/calendar.html>.

Main Department Line: (802) 828-3135

NOTE: For comments or questions specific to the messages above, please contact the person listed. DO NOT reply to this message.

This Field Memo is posted weekly by the Department of Education to better organize our e-communications to the field. There may be times when separate messages from the department will still be sent.



Supporting Children of the National Guard and Reserve Institute©
Military Child Education Coalition™
Registration Form – May 5-6, 2009 Montpelier, VT

The Military Child Education Coalition's™ **Supporting Children of the National Guard and Reserve Institute©** is a professional development program for educators and professionals to reach out in a support network to the children and families of the National Guard and Reserve. The conference includes two continental breakfasts, two lunches, two break refreshments and conference materials (no registration, meal, or resource material cost to participants). The curriculum, content, process, and delivery are correlated with the National Staff Development Council's Standards and the National Standards for School Counseling Programs. Because the Institute is very interactive and participation is required to fully benefit from this training, participants must commit to attend both days.

Date: May 5-6, 2009 (training is a two-day session (12 full seat hours required for institute credit – attendance both full days required – no partial attendance accepted))

Training: Supporting Children of the National Guard and Reserve Institute©

Location: Vermont College of Fine Arts (Room: Noble Lounge)

36 College St.
Montpelier, VT 05602
802-828-8802

Time: 8:30 am – 4:00 pm (registration and continental breakfast at 8:00 am)

Deadline for registration: April 24, 2009 Register on line at <http://www.militarychild.org> (Upcoming Trainings)

Cost: None - Funded by U.S. FMWRC-CYS. Participants are responsible for travel and overnight accommodations.

For your information, educational credits are available. Fees are to be paid at the G&R Institute.

1.2 Continuing Education Credit through IACET, certification costs \$25.00

1 Graduate Credit through a branch of Texas A & M University costs \$175.00

Name: _____
(Used for name badge, PLEASE PRINT legibly)

Title/Assignment: _____

District & School Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email address: _____

Register on line at <http://www.militarychild.org> or fax registration to 254-953-1925, Attn: Linda Neault.

Confirmation: You will receive an email confirmation, within 10 business days. Please make sure you have received confirmation in order to ensure you are registered.

For more information about the Supporting Children of the National Guard and Reserve Institute©, please contact Linda Neault at 254-953-1923 or Linda.Neault@MilitaryChild.org

Disclaimer

I understand that participants are required to attend both full days of training. No partial attendance is accepted due to conformance with IACET standards.

Printed Name (as will appear on certificate)

Signature

Date